

WSR Youth Baseball and Softball

Policies and Procedures for Volunteer Coach Background Check

PURPOSE

The primary purpose of this policy is to preserve the safety and well-being of youth players who choose to participate in programs offered by the Waverly-Shell Rock Youth Baseball and Softball (WSRBBSB) group. This policy will outline our procedures for conducting background checks on volunteers who may have unsupervised contact with youth under the age of 18 within the youth baseball and softball program.

POLICY

The WSRBBSB group requires that any individual applying to be considered as a volunteer coach (head or assistant) for any team/league under the WSRBBSB program will be required to complete the national background screening through Protect Youth Sports via TeamSideline when registering to coach.

Volunteers will be automatically disqualified from coaching if an applicant provides inaccurate information in their application or if the volunteer refuses to complete the screening process.

Coaches will be cleared to coach after information gathered from the background check is analyzed and the applicant passes the standards detailed below.

PROCESS/PROCEDURES

1. All individuals applying to be considered as a volunteer coach will be required to register as a coach through the TeamSideline registration form. All registrations must be completed prior to acting as a coach / assistant coach for any team/event. Failure to complete the application will automatically disqualify the volunteer from coaching.
2. Once the registration is complete, Protect Youth Sports Inc. will automatically perform the background check for the individual that registered.
 - a. The screening provided by Protect Youth Sports entails the following:
 - i. Social Security Verification – This verifies the applicant's name and date of birth against the social security number provided. This is utilized to help eliminate the possibility of false names and/or information. The full social security numbers are directly

sent to Protect Youth Sports and are not visible to anyone within the WSRBBSB group or TeamSideline.

- ii. Address Trace
 - iii. National and Local Criminal Record Search
 - iv. Sex Offender Registry Screening
3. Results are typically provided within 1 – 5 days. Protect Youth Sports will provide a report back to the WSRBBSB club through TeamSideline to review and notify them if an applicant passed or a report “Needs Review.”
4. If the background screening/check reveals a conviction that is detailed under “Disqualifications/Exclusions” below, the report will be discussed by the primary committee that oversees the WSRBBSB program. That individual will then receive a written or verbal notice from the WSRBBSB oversight committee that he or she is not eligible to begin or continue in their role as a volunteer coach. Determination of eligibility will be made by the primary committee that oversees the WSRBBSB program. In the case of a verbal notice, two or more members of the oversight committee will be present in the discussion.

DISQUALIFICATIONS/EXCLUSIONS

A volunteer coach applicant will be disqualified as a youth sports coach if the individual has status as a registered sex offender or has been found guilty of the following crimes:

(Guilty means that a person was found guilty following a trial, entered a guilty plea, entered a no contest plea accompanied by a court finding of guilty, regardless of whether there was an adjudication of guilt (conviction) or a withholding of guilt.)

Sex Offenses

- All sex offenses regardless of the amount of time since offense.
 - Examples include, but not limited to : child molestation, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sodomy, prostitution, child enticement, solicitation , indecent exposure, etc.

Felonies

- All felony violence regardless of the amount of time since offense.
 - Examples include, but not limited to: homicide, manslaughter, aggravated assault, kidnapping, robbery, aggravated burglary, etc.
- All felony offenses other than violence or sex within the past 10 years.
 - Examples include, but not limited to: Drug offenses, theft, embezzlement, fraud, child endangerment, etc.

Misdemeanors

- All misdemeanor violence offenses within the past 7 years.
 - Examples include, but not limited to, simple assault, battery, domestic violence, hit & run, etc.
- Two or more misdemeanor drug and/or alcohol offenses within the past 7 years.
 - Examples include, but are not limited to, driving under the influence, simple drug possession, drunk and disorderly, public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia, etc.
- Any other misdemeanor within the past 5 years that would be considered a potential danger to children or is directly related to the functions of the volunteer.
 - Examples include, but not limited to, contributing to the delinquency of a minor, providing alcohol to a minor, etc.

Pending Cases

- Anyone who has been charged for any of the disqualifying offenses or for cases pending in court should not be permitted to volunteer until the official adjudication of the case. In the case that an already approved coach is charged for any of the disqualifying offenses while actively coaching, they will be required to immediately disclose the nature of the charges to the WSRBBSB club and voluntarily terminate their coaching duties until the official adjudication of the case.

APPEALING DECISIONS

1. If the volunteer coach applicant should choose to appeal the contents of the report, the individual is responsible for taking appropriate action with Protect Youth Sports Inc. to have the results of the criminal background check report corrected if they believe anything was reported in error. The applicant is responsible for providing any and all documentation to support his/her claim.
2. If an applicants background check includes a charge set forth on the list of disqualifiers above, the WSRBBSB group shall immediately disqualify the applicant from volunteering as a coach. There shall be no appeal of a decision to disqualify the applicant if the history reported is accurate; all decisions are final.

Confidentiality of Information

All forms and information submitted and/or received as a part of the background screening/check process will only be used as part of the review process and kept confidential. However, criminal histories are a matter of public record. If an individual is disqualified and/or excluded from volunteer coaching the WSRBBSB group cannot guarantee that this type of information, once discovered, will be kept confidential.